Workforce in unorganised sector

2302. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the country's workforce have been employed in the unorganised sectors of the economy;

(b) the number of people in various age-group employed in the unorganised sector *vis-a-vis* those employed in the organised sector;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the specific types of enterprises in the unorganised sector where workforces are largely employed and their future potential of generating jobs;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the details of measures initiated by Government for welfare and protection of rights of those employed in unorganised sector of our economy for the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The results of Census and periodic surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation are the main source of data for the workforce in the unorganised sector. The industry-wise distribution of employment in unorganised sector is given in the Statement (See below).

Age-wise information is not maintained

(e) The Government has initiated several measures for the welfare of the labourers in the unorganised sector. The Government have set up Welfare Funds to provide social security/welfare measures to certain categories of workers *i.e.* beedi workers, certain non-coal mine workers and cine workers. The welfare measures include health care, housing, educational assistance for children, drinking water supply, etc. The Government launched on pilot basis in 50 districts the Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana-2001 in July 2001 through the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) for agricultural workers. The scheme envisaged the benefit of life-cum-accident insurance, money back, superannuation benefits and pension. The worker was required to pay Re. 1/- per day and the contribution of the Government was Rs. 2/- per day per worker. As reported by LIC, 2,53,168 agricultural workers have been registered upto 31.03.2003. However, due to paucity of funds, no new enrollments have

been made thereafter. The Government also launched the Unorganised Sector Workers' Social Security Scheme, 2004 in January 2004 on pilot basis in 50 districts. The benefits included health insurance, personal accident insurance cover and old age pension. About 3500 unorganised workers have been covered under the scheme. However, the scheme was not found viable as it had no statutory backing, it was voluntary in nature and the contribution from the employers was not forthcoming. In view of this, the scheme is being re-worked. In addition to this, the Government is implementing various poverty alleviation/employment generations schemes. Further, Janshree Bima Yojana Providing for insurance cover to the people living below or marginally above the poverty line is also available for the workers in the unorganised sector. The Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHIS) providing for health insurance of Rs. 30,000/- per year as hospitalization costs. The premium for the family of five is Rs. 548 per annum whereas it is subsidized to Rs. 248 in case of those living below poverty line. The Government has also constituted a National Commission for the Enterprises in the Unorganised/Informal Sector to examine the problems facing enterprises in the unorganised/informal sector. The terms of reference of the Commission, *inter-alia,* include review of the status of unorganised/informal sector in India including the nature of enterprises, magnitude of employment; identifying constraints faced by small enterprises and review of the social security system available for labour in the informal sector, and make recommendations for expanding their coverage.

Statement

Employment in organised and unorganised sector by Industry (in crore)

Industry	1999-2000		
	Total Employment	Employment in organised Sector	Employment in Unorganised Sector
Agriculture	23.8	0.14	23.6
Mining & Quarrying	0.23	0.1	0.13
Manufacturing	4.80	0.66	4.14
Electricity, gas & water supply	0.13	0.1	0.03

Industry	1999-2000		
	Total Employment	Employment in organised Sector	Employment in Unorganised Sector
Construction	1.76	0.11	1.65
Trade	3.73	0.05	3.68
Transport, Storage & Communication	1.47	0.32	1.15
Financial Services	0.51	0.17	0.34
Community Social & Pres. Services	3.32	1.15	2.17
Total Employment	39.70	2.80	36.90

NOTE:

(i) Total may not tally due to rounding.

(ii) Organised sector covers all establishments in the public sector, irrespective of their size and non-agricultrual establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more person.

(iii) Data on organised sector employment is on the basis of Employment Market Information Programme of DGE&T, Ministry of Labour.

Confusion over rate of interest on EPF

†2303. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether because of the prevalent confusing situation over the rate of interest with regard to Employees Provident Fund, the payment of legitimate dues have not been made to approximate ten lakhs of workers during the first five months of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Trusty Board of EPF Organisation has recommended an interim rate of interest of 8.5 per cent only which is one per cent less *vis-a-vis* year 2003-04; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.